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PATENT

Case Docket No. NAKAKURA.023AUS

Date: May 17, 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Masaaki Matsutani et al.
App. No. : 10/694,327
Filed : October 27, 2003
For : BLOOD VESSEL KNIFE
Art Unit : 3731
Examiner : Unknown

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

May 17, 2005

(Date)


Yasuo Muramatsu, Reg. No. 38,684

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a * in the above-identified utility application.

() An extension of time to respond for one month(s) is hereby requested.

Time Extension Fee:

- ☐ one month(\$60 small entity)
- ☐ two months(\$225 small entity)
- ☐ three months (\$510 small entity)

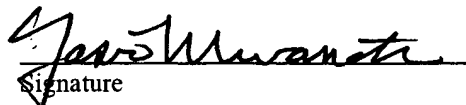
Enclosed are:

(X) Information Disclosure Statement with PTO-1449 form and two references with English abstract.

(X) Return prepaid postcard.

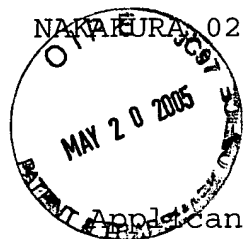
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

MURAMATSU & ASSOCIATES
114 Pacifica, Suite 310
Irvine, CA 92618
Tel: (949)753-1127


Signature

Yasuo Muramatsu
Printed Name

38,684
Registration Number



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Masaaki Matsutani et al.) Group Art Unit 3731
Serial No. : 10/694,327)
Filed : October 27, 2003)
For : BLOOD VESSEL KNIFE)
Examiner : Unknown)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the requirements under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, enclosed is a form PTO-1449 listing two references relevant to the subject matter of the present invention. A copy of the two references are also enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, and no fee is required in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1) and (3). The prior art references are:

(1) U.S. Patent No. 5,769,866 entitled "INCISION DEVICE" and issued to Frantzen on June 23, 1998.

(2) German Patent Publication No. DE 3225620 A1 published February 3, 1983.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed references be considered in the substantive examination of this case.

Serial No. : 10/694,327
Filed : October 27, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

MURAMATSU & ASSOCIATES

Dated: _____

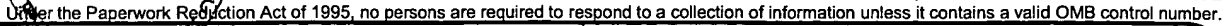
5/17/05

By: _____



Yasuo Muramatsu
Registration No. 38,684
Attorney of Record
114 Pacifica, Suite 310
Irvine, CA 92618
(949) 753-1127

IDS-NK23.002
051705



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/694,327
Filing Date	10/27/2003
First Named Inventor	Masaaki Matsutani
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	NAKAKURA.023AUS

Sheet	1	of	1
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.